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is an easy day  
when you use a  
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**The Times' Daily Short Story.**

**A BLESSING IN DISGUISE**

(Original.)

It is impossible to tell what is for our welfare. I knew a young man who wrote a hand so illegible and spelled so incorrectly that the firm with which he was a clerk put him on outside work. In this he did so well that he eventually became managing partner. Had he written well he would never have been more than an accountant.

When I was young I was the pet of an aunt who was devoted to fashion. I was fond of society myself, and, being popular, my aunt was so pleased with me that she made a will in my favor, bequeathing me at her death a considerable fortune. I fell in love with a young lady who, like myself, was "in the swim," but unfortunately poor. My aunt, who was very romantic, was not at all displeased with my marriage, declaring that she had quite enough for both of us. Indeed she gave me an allowance which enabled me to support a wife and live a life of ease.

During the winter at the end of which our first child was born I was obliged to go into society without my wife. She was very notional in what she ate and craved things usually unobtainable. One evening she was seized with a desire for some strawberries. It was in February, and even if the berries were to be had the markets were closed. I was going to a ball and was obliged to leave my wife pining for the fruit while I danced. It seemed like "fiddling while Rome was burning."

What was my surprise to see on the supper table at the house where the ball took place a splendid dish of strawberries. They had been brought from the south, but instead of being tasteless, as such berries usually are, were sweet and juicy. I ate a plateful of them and at the same time was planning to pardon some of them to take home to my wife. I loitered in the supper room till every guest had gone, all the while fearful that the strawberries would be gone as well. Fortunately a waiter brought in a fresh dish just as the room was left vacant. Seizing on the floor under a side table some paper boxes in which bonbons had been sent to the house, I selected one about the size of a quart strawberry box and, hastily filling it, slipped it unseen into a pocket in the swallowtail of my coat. Then I went to the hostess to bid her good night in order that I might at once carry the precious strawberries to my wife.

"Surely you are not going so early?" said the lady. "You can't go now. I need you to lead the cotillon."

I was terrified. Lead the cotillon with my pocket full of strawberries! "Can you not excuse me?" I asked. "I am not feeling well."

**NEW WORK ON THE WABASH**

Many Men Gathering Mussel Shells From River Bed at Grayville, Ill.

The gathering of mussel shells along the Wabash river is quite an industry this season at Grayville, Ill., says the St. Louis Republic. Several hundred men are at work along the stream gathering the shells, which are sold to the pearl button factories. There is good money in the work, as a man can gather a ton a day, netting him \$8 for his work. There are said to be about twenty different varieties in the river, but not all are good for buttons. At least the buyers are refusing some of the shells which are called culls.

Two shell buyers are at Grayville buying shells, which are shipped to pearl button factories in Iowa and Arkansas. The price paid for a ton of shells is \$8 on the river bank or \$10 loaded in the car. Several car loads have already been shipped from Grayville, and the industry has just begun. Shell men say that there will be a supply of shells in the river for three years or more. This is the first time that the stream has been worked, and there are said to be some very large beds in the river. One bed south of Grayville some miles is said to be two miles long and fifteen feet deep.

In addition to the gathering of the shells the diggers can frequently make some money on the side by the sale of a pearl. Only a few good pearls have as yet been found, but quite a number of slugs have been pocketed by the pearlers. The slugs can also be disposed of, but the price is very low compared to the price of pearls. The work will be kept up all fall until the river freezes up. Shell men predict that by next spring there will be from 3,000 to

**5,000 men at work along the river gathering shells.**

**NEW TWO CENT STAMP.**

It Will Bear the Portrait of Washington on a Shield.

Postmaster General Payne has approved a new design for a two-cent postage stamp which will succeed the "flag" stamp which has been in use for about six months and which has been greatly criticized by the press and critics and stamp collectors.

The new design contains the portrait of Washington, of the Stuart type, similar in a general way to the portrait upon the stamp now in use, says the Washington Star. The frame or background of the design is a shield, the lower portion of which has been flattened so as to permit its conforming to the outlines of the stamp.

The upper third of the design comprises the blue field with stars there are only four fully visible, although three points of as many stars may be seen peeping out from behind the letters "United States of America." The blue field is cut off by means of a horizontal line about the top of Washington's head, and the vertical bars, three on either side, shaded so as to depict red and white, comprise the remainder of the design.

The name of Washington, dates of birth and death, and the value in letters appears very similar to that in the current stamp. The distinguishing features of difference in the present stamp and the new design lie in the improved photo of Washington and the abandonment of the flag and substitution of a great shield therefor.

These restrictions, as is easily seen, do not allow the runner receiving a ball on direct pass from center to plunge through the line. He must make what practically amounts to an end run. Nor do they allow him to be protected by mass play interference. The most important change, however, is that whether the runner receives the ball direct from center or receives it through the quarter back he must have seven of his men in the line and consequently cannot avail himself of mass play interference until he is over the twenty-five yard line—that is, within striking distance of the goal.

ELLISON PORTER.

**Effect of Football Changes**

Opening Games of Season Give New Rules a Thorough Try Out. Play Is More Open Than Heretofore. As to Tackling.

The opening games of the football season have given coaches and captains splendid opportunities to judge of the effect the new rules have on pigskin battles. All the colleges have been out on the checkerboard.

A great deal of exciting play has taken place—enough, in fact, to justify the prediction that the season will be a brilliant one.

The new rules, as is pretty thoroughly understood by this time, permit a



ADAM HEWETSON, CORNELL'S DEAF AND DUMB PLAYER.

variation of the usual method of carrying the ball forward. This variation is allowed in the middle part of the field bounded by the twenty-five yard lines. In this section the runner is permitted to receive the ball direct from center. He is, however, handicapped in two ways—first, he must run five yards to the side before crossing the line of scrimmage, and, secondly, there must be seven men in the rush line.

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In the preliminary practice this season more attention has been paid to the old football than to the new for it's reason that the methods of advancing the ball when within striking distance of the goal are the more important.

And so it was not until actual games, with the umpire and referee, had been played that any estimate of the new rules was possible.

The result has seemed to justify the expectation of those who predicted more open play. The question whether the effect will be lasting or merely temporary depends upon a great many things.

The prohibition of mass plays in the middle of the field brings about a sudden and exciting change the moment one team gets within striking distance of its opponents' goal. Then for the first time tackle back plays and similar formations are hurled at the line.

The opponents are entirely new to what is coming. They have no opportunity of diagnosing these scoring plays, and the chances of a team scoring when it gets the ball within striking distance of the goal line is thus materially increased.

One minor point with regard to the rules clearly demonstrated by the opening games was the practicability of judging the "five yards to the side" in the quarter back run. It had been predicted that this would be a difficult task for the referee.

On the whole the new rules have brought about an advantage to the smaller teams and to teams which are good in the kicking game. It will no

longer be possible for a big team to mow down its smaller opponents in practice games by a succession of mass plays from one end of the field to the other.

The big teams, on the other hand, will be benefited because they will be forced to exploit the straight running game. It is widely believed that while mass plays form the most efficient means of advancing the ball against an inferior opponent they are not so efficient when hurled against an equal opponent. In a championship contest there is nothing like the quick dive between tackle and guard, and the other plays of that nature run from a seven men in the line formation. And the value of these plays, used so extensively five years ago, will come to be recognized this season.

Another result which the legislation of this season will accomplish will be in the line of sure tackling in the open field. The prevalence of open plays will make clean, sure tackling a more important part of defensive work than it has been for several years. The old fashioned dive tackle, in which a man running at full speed left his feet, shot through the air and fastened like a steel trap on the runner, will be more than ever in evidence.

The tendency of defensive work in the mass play game is to encourage slovenly tackling and to lay more stress on simply smashing into a play without following the dive up by "hanging on to" the play. A loose grip of the wrists, however, in open tackling is fatal, and as the season progresses this fault, evident on all fields today, will be eliminated. At present there are very few men who can tackle like Davis of Princeton.

Of the many candidates to report for the football team at Cornell this fall by far the most remarkable is Adam H. Hewetson of Riverside, Cal. Hewetson is deaf and dumb, yet not only is he an excellent student and fully up to the college requirements, but is an athlete as well and strong as an ox. He was on hand to report for the football team at the very beginning of practice, and the determination which he has shown and his great strength and knack for the game will make him a factor in the contest for positions in the back field, despite his great handicap.

When he first reported at the clubhouse for practice, a laughable incident occurred. Trainer Moakley and the various undergraduate candidates for assistant manager were there distributing suits to the players when Hewetson came up. Although Hewetson is an exceptionally intelligent looking fellow, Trainer Moakley stood aghast when he began making known his wants on his fingers, and Moakley, to use his own expression, did not know what he was "up against," but one of his assistants knew the alphabet and quickly understood what the young athlete desired. He was immediately fitted out with a suit, and since that time he has been shown every consideration by the coaches.

Hewetson receives the signals by means of signs from the quarter back, who either slaps his knees before he gives the regular signals or signals with his arm, so that the play is understood before the ball is snapped. If Hewetson should not understand the play he touches the full back by his side.

Hewetson will enter as a special student in arts. He is twenty-one years old and enters Cornell from the University of Toronto. He played football on the Toronto university team last year. The fact that he was at Toronto last year will make him ineligible.



CAPTAIN JOHN DE WITT OF PRINCETON.

(De Witt is probably the best all-around football player in the country. His kicking, line bucking and general defensive ability make him invaluable to the Princeton eleven. De Witt is over six feet tall and weighs 220 pounds. His rather young face and slight inclination to stoutness produce a general impression of slowness and give no indication whatever of his speed nor of his remarkable ability at the roughest game in the calendar of sports.)

ble for the varsity at Cornell unless this provision is waived by mutual consent with the teams with whom the Ithacans play.

But in any event Hewetson will continue to play on the "scrub." He declares that he will make a hard fight for the first eleven next fall. Hewetson weighs 150 pounds and is a very fast runner.

**ENVOY FROM MACEDONIA**

Dr. Shoemkoff Tells Why His Countrymen Are Fighting.

**BRUTALITY OF TURKS PICTURED.**

He Says the Sultan's Soldier Is Suspicious of His Shadow and Will Not Fight Men—Handsome Women Carried Off—The Rest, With the Children and Old Persons, Are Slaughtered.

Sent as a special envoy to create sympathy for the insurgents in the Balkans, Dr. S. J. Shoemkoff of the Macedonian benevolent committee of Sofia, who recently arrived at New York on the Deutschland from Southampton, has gone to confer with the president of the University of Pennsylvania on the methods of raising funds and creating interest in the distress of his people, says the New York Press.

Dr. Shoemkoff is a graduate of the department of philosophy of the University of Pennsylvania and is also a graduate of Chicago university. In all he spent fifteen years in the two universities. Then he returned to his home in Salonika to join the uprising now in progress.

"The extent of the horror of Turkish warfare," he said, "cannot be conceived in this country.

"The Turks will not fight the men, but they go into isolated villages when the men are away with the insurgent bands, lay waste whole villages, carry the handsome women into the harems of the generals and murder the rest, together with all of the Christian children. Then the towns are burned to the ground.

"Americans cannot conceive of this kind of warfare. But all Europe knows it. The sickening stench of the murders arises from the plains of Macedonia to the nostrils of all civilized Europe. But they will do nothing. They are used to the stench. And our blood runs in torrents, but no one cares."

"We have waited for twenty-five years since the treaty of Berlin for the inauguration of the reforms and for the establishment of the home rule that were promised by it. Instead we have been made the slaves of the Turk—disfranchised in every court, our women taken ruthlessly from our homes, our goods and our lives placed absolutely at the mercy of those who are merciful only when they kill. I ask the American people if they could have stood this for twenty-five years?

"Bulgaria is filled with the few women and children who escaped, and in our hiding places we have in bands of 100, 200, 500, men who feed on what they can find, who sleep on the ground, carry no camp baggage, excepting their rifles and hand bombs filled with dynamite.

"Scouts are stationed all through the country. We have every patriot in the country who lives in the larger towns under a tax according to his ability to pay. This fund supplies us with arms and ammunition.

"Today in Macedonia the Turk is suspicious of his shadow. He goes abroad only in midday and in force, and not to fight, but to murder the women and children in some little village that has been left unprotected through operations carried on at a distance. The actions of the Turkish soldiery in such attacks are those of incarnate fiends. From the time the attack begins until the last woman and child is dead and the village in flames the soldiers are uncontrolled by anything except their fury. Their officers could not restrain them if they would. Discipline is unknown. The soldiers are without pay and find it as they go.

"It may seem strange to say we are not trying to form a government in Macedonia. But such is the fact. Our warfare is conducted simply with a view to force Bulgaria to fight Turkey. Her people are doing it with food, recruits, arms and funds, but her government has stood like the rest of the powers and looked apathetically on at the tragedies without lifting a finger officially to aid us.

"The real organizer of the revolution is Dr. Tatcheff. For his activity in organizing the men of Macedonia he was exiled at one time, but when he secured enough men he returned and headed them himself. His little band was the nucleus of the present insurgent force. Today he directs everything in connection with the Sofia committee, the benevolent Macedonia committee, composed of Professors George, Militch, Agoura, Radoff and Karayovoff.

"I expect to present myself for audience with President Roosevelt soon, and then I will have a chance to beg for the aid we need for our refugees now in Bulgaria. There are thousands of them there. The winter is coming on, and they have nothing to live upon. The Turks have stripped them of everything. If aid does not reach them they will starve to death. But they would do it contentedly if they knew the fighting men had plenty of ammunition.

"I hope to get some of the public spirited men in this country to organize committees to raise funds for our people. I do not wish to touch the money. I would be more than glad if they would appoint a committee to carry the funds across and distribute them to the needy and see for themselves the extremity to which the neglect of the great civilized powers of Europe has reduced my country and countrymen."

**Russian Currency For Finland.**

In pursuance of a recent instruction from St. Petersburg the native currency of Finland is to be replaced soon by Russian.

REGULAR USE OF  
**SHREDDED WHEAT BISCUIT**  
MEANS  
**WHOLE HEALTH THE WHOLE TIME**  
EVEN A TRIAL MAKES YOU FEEL BETTER  
GROCERS

**RADIUM'S GREAT POWER**

Luminous Effects on Diamonds Shown by Tiffany's Expert.

**FIFTEEN CARAT STONE USED.**

One Twenty-three-hundredths of an Ounce of the Rare Mineral, Incased in Many Receptacles, Made a Big Diamond Sparkle in the Dark at a Demonstration in New York.

A large assemblage sat in utter darkness for more than an hour the other evening at the Museum of Natural History, in New York, and among other incidents watched the fluorescence and phosphorescence imparted to a fifteen carat diamond by 127 milligrams (or 1-2300 an ounce) of radium.

The exhibition was so marvellous as almost to be incredible, but every statement that has been made abroad regarding the properties of the new metal was confirmed, says the New York American.

Prior to covering the lights the small tube containing the radium was passed around the hall for inspection, but it never left the hands of George F. Kuntz, the expert of the Tiffany company, who gave the exhibition. One reason was that radium is highly dangerous; another that it is very costly.

The specimen shown was of 300,000 activity, the most potent yet seen in the United States, although a much higher grade will undoubtedly be produced. The feeling of danger inspired was of that indefinite character that may well be described as "uncanny." Nobody present at the museum could gauge radium's distinctive powers, but enough of the mineral was at hand to convert the museum building into dust.

Radium is separated from uranium; from many tons only a mere trace. Twenty-five hundred tons (5,000,000 pounds) must be refined to secure one pound of radium. Its cost, \$4,200,000.

The appearance of the new metal was that of a mixture of fine table salt and flour. Some of its particles glistened; others were dull white.

The incident of the night was the display of the effect of radium upon white and blue diamonds. Then Professor Kuntz announced that he was about to produce from a box a fifteen carat Brazilian diamond. The diamond had no luminosity in the dark when held aloft, but as soon as the radium tube was placed behind it the gem took on a pale steel white glow, the intensity of which increased to a fixed degree.

Professor Kuntz then inclosed the glass containing the radium in a rubber pipe—same effect. This combination was then dropped into a section of lead pipe—no change in result. Again the radium, glass, rubber and lead were sealed in a brass tube with a screw top—the big white diamond glowed as before.

Then came the supreme test. The diamond was held far from the radium until its phosphorescence had melted away. Meanwhile the brass tube and its contents were submerged in a jar of water. Four inches of wooden blocks were placed before it on a pedestal and the white diamond hung over the wood, facing the assembly. These preparations were made in the small luminous field of a portable electric lamp.

After the extinction of the electric bulb a pale white luminous spot began to develop at the front of the wooden blocks. In a few seconds it glowed like a fiery, and in a quarter of a minute it literally sparkled.

Professor Kuntz announced that the specimen of costly metal had been presented to the Academy of Natural Sciences, belonging to the museum, by Edward D. Ellis of New York city.

**Golf in Silk Hats.**

Each contestant must wear a silk hat and either a Prince Albert or an evening coat to participate in the golf tournament for the Billy King cup at the Glen Echo club in a few days, says a St. Louis dispatch. It is said that several members asked permission to play in opera hats, as they would be less likely to suffer in a round of links, but Mr. King and Colonel McGrew refused to listen to the suggestion. The club members think it likely that a majority of the players will wear Prince Alberts, as the tournament cannot be started until 6 o'clock if dress suits are worn. However, this point has not yet been finally agreed upon by the respective contestants.